

Message Text

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ACTION ERDA-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 ERDE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00
SS-15 NSC-05 USIE-00 H-01 L-03 ACDA-07 CIAE-00 INR-07
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FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9322
INFO AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMCONSUL DHAHRAN
AMCONSUL NICE

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: TECH, ENRG, SA, EG
SUBJECT: SOLAR ENERGY AGREEMENT

REF: STATE 020436

1. REF DEPTTEL REQUESTED DISCUSSION OF FRANCO-SAUDI
SOLAR ENERGY AGREEMENT REPORTEDLY SET FOR SIGNATURE
JANUARY 26. FRENCH FOREIGN MINISTRY SAUDI ARABIAN
DESK OFFICER TOLD EMBASSY NOTHING HAS BEEN SIGNED YET.
EXPLORATORY TALKS AT A WORKING LEVEL CONTINUE BETWEEN
THE TWO COUNTRIES, ENVISAGING POSSIBLE FUTURE SALES OF
FRENCH PATENTS IN SAUDI ARABIA, ACCORDING TO EMBASSY
SOURCE.

2. INDUSTRY AND FINANCE MINISTRY HELD SOLAR ENERGY
CONFERENCE 27 THROUGH 29 JANUARY ATTENDED BY, AMONG
OTHER COUNTRIES, SAUDI ARABIA AND EGYPT.

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3. CONFERENCE, IN WORDS OF COLLI, DIRECTOR FOR NEW
ENERGY, WAS GEARED, BEYOND STRICTLY TECHNICAL ASPECTS
OF SOLAR ENERGY, TO ITS POLITICAL, FINANCIAL,
JURIDICAL, AND ADMINISTRATIVE ASPECTS.

4. SOLAR ENERGY AGREEMENT IN PRINCIPLE BETWEEN
FRANCE AND EGYPT ANNOUNCED ON JANUARY 27. IT PROVIDES

FOR COOPERATION IN SEVERAL APPLICATIONS FIELDS:
ELECTRIC PLANTS, SOLAR PUMPS, REFRIGERATION, AND
DESALINIZATION. FOR THE IMMEDIATE FUTURE CONSTRUCTION
OF SOLAR PUMPS AND HIGH TEMPERATURE SOLAR ELECTRIC
PLANT IS ENVISAGED.

5. THE NICE CONFERENCE WAS ORGANIZED AT THE INITIATIVE
OF THE FRENCH MINISTRY OF INUSTRY AND RESEARCH AND
WAS SCHEDULED TO INCLUDE PARTICIPATION BY MINISTERS AND
EXPERTS FROM MOST MEDITERRANEAN AREA COUNTRIES:
ALGERIA, SAUDI ARABIA, CYPRUS, EGYPT, SPAIN, UNITED
ARAB EMIRATES, GREECE, ITALY, KUWAIT, MALTA, MOROCCO,
MONACO, PORTUGAL, QATAR, LIBYA, YEMEN, TUNISIA, TURKEY,
YUGOSLAVIA, I.B.R.D., EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES, U.N.D.P.

6. THE FIRST DAY WAS A MEETING OF EXPERTS OF
HEATING AND HOUSING DESIGN COVERING AIR-CONDITIONING,
DESALINIZATION, SOLAR TELECOMMUNICATIONS, SOLAR
AGRICULTURE, AND BIOCONVERSION. THE SECOND, ON SOLAR
ELECTRICITY, WAS PRESIDED OVER BY CHABBAL, DIRECTOR OF
CNRS, AND CONCERNED LOW-TEMPERATURE THERMODYNAMICS,
PHOTOVOLTAIC AND MEDIUM- AND LARGE-SIZED PLANTS. THE
THIRD DAY WAS DEVOTED TO PLANT VISITS AND A ROUNDTABLE
MEETING ON SOLAR ENERGY IN NATIONAL ENERGY POLICY. THE
FINAL DAY WAS A PLENARY WHERE CHABBAL PRESIDED IN THE
ABSENCE OF INDUSTRY MINISTER D'ORNANO, WHO WAS CALLED
TO ACCOMPANY PRESIDENT GISCARD ON STATE VISIT TO
SAUDI ARABIA.

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Message Attributes

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